

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of the claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

8. (currently amended) A network computer server system for controlling a plurality of network access lines to provide subscriber access to a computer network, the server system comprising:

an access line interface for partitioning the plurality of network access lines as first stage lines and second stage lines:

a processor operatively coupled to the access line interface, the processor being operatively coupled to computer readable media encoded with instructions to perform the steps of:

determining an available number of second stage lines;

queuing arriving subscribers bidding for network access in the first stage lines and periodically admitting at least a portion of the arriving subscribers into the second stage lines based on respective bid ~~amounts~~ prices and the availability of second stage lines;

determining a spot price of the resource based on at least one arrival subscriber not admitted to the second stage lines;

determining a reservation fee for secured access to the network for the admitted subscribers to secure future network access at a given bid price;

determining whether a subscriber has accepted the reservation fee and controlling the access line interface to operatively couple that subscriber to the network via a second stage line as a reserved subscriber;

determining whether a subscriber has rejected the reservation fee and controlling the access line interface to operatively coupled that subscriber to the network via a second stage line as an unreserved subscriber;

controlling the access line interface to disconnect from the network non-reserved subscribers whose bid prices are below the spot price; and

activating a reservation of reserved subscribers whose bid price is below the spot price, and controlling the access line interface to maintain network access for the reserved subscriber for a duration of the reservation; and

a memory device operatively coupled to the processor, the memory device for storing a data base of subscriber account data.

9. (currently amended) The network computer server system as defined by claim 8, wherein the processor calculates the reservation fee on the bid ~~amount~~ price and a requested duration of the reservation.

10. (original) The network computer server system as defined by claim 8, wherein the reservation fee is inversely proportional to the bid price and directly proportional to the requested duration of the reservation.

11. (currently amended) The network computer server system as defined by claim 8, wherein processor sets the spot price to the highest bid price of the at least one arrival subscriber not admitted to the second stage lines.

12. (original) The network computer server system as defined by claim 8, wherein the processor calculates the available number of lines in the second stage as a total number of lines in the second stage less the number of reserved subscribers admitted in the second stage.